

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A level adapted for use in ~~vertically~~ limited spaces comprising having a reference surface;

a vial of fluid containing a bubble and having a flat lower surface disposed ~~parallel to~~ in contact with said reference surface, said vial being adapted to center said bubble when said reference surface is level and when said vial is oriented at any azimuthal angle;

a prism having a 45 degree surface disposed above said vial and oriented to direct an image of said vial along a substantially horizontal line of sight;

further comprising adjusting means for adjusting the orientation of said prism to tilt said line of sight in a vertical plane, said adjusting means being rotatable about an axis substantially perpendicular to said reference surface while said vial is fixed, whereby said line of sight may be oriented at any azimuthal angle.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) A level according to claim 2 1, in which said 45 degree surface of said prism is partially transmissive and further comprising a light source directed through said partially transmissive surface toward said vial.

4. (currently amended) A level according to claim 1, further comprising adjusting means for adjusting the orientation of said prism to tilt said line of sight in a vertical plane.

5. (canceled)

6. (original) A level according to claim 3, further comprising adjusting means for adjusting the orientation of said 45 degree surface to tilt said line of sight in a vertical plane.

7. (currently amended) A level according to claim 1, ~~further comprising rotation in which said~~ means for adjusting the orientation of said prism is adapted to rotate said line of sight in a horizontal plane while said vial remains fixed.

8. (canceled)

9. (currently amended) A level according to claim 8 7, in which said 45 degree surface of said prism is partially transmissive and further comprising a light source directed through said partially transmissive surface toward said vial.

10. - 12. (canceled)

13. (original) A level according to claim 1, in which said vial is substantially circular, whereby said bubble responds to the orientation of said reference surface along any axis.

14. (original) A level according to claim 13, in which said prism has a 45 degree surface intercepting said image of said vial and directing said image of said vial along said substantially horizontal line of sight.

15. (original) A level according to claim 14, in which said 45 degree surface of said prism is partially transmissive and further comprising a light source directed through said partially transmissive surface toward said vial.

16. (original) A level according to claim 13, further comprising adjusting means for adjusting the orientation of said prism to tilt said line of sight in a vertical plane.

17. (original) A level according to claim 14, further comprising adjusting means for adjusting the orientation of said 45 degree surface to tilt said line of sight in a vertical plane.